

1 **CLAIMS**

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5 1. An athletic shoe protection system, comprising:

6 a sandal member having a securing structure for receiving a shoe with a
7 plurality of gripping members; and

8 an insert member having a thermoplastic layer attached to a foam layer, wherein
9 said insert member is positionable within said sandal member.
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12 2. The athletic shoe protection system of Claim 1, wherein said thermoplastic
13 layer enters a soft state when heated for receiving a plurality of gripping members from
14 a shoe thereby forming recessed portions within said insert member.
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17 3. The athletic shoe protection system of Claim 1, wherein said sandal member
18 includes a resilient sole.
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21 4. The athletic shoe protection system of Claim 3, wherein said sandal member
22 includes a rear lip extending upwardly from a rear end of said resilient sole.
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25 5. The athletic shoe protection system of Claim 1, wherein said securing
26 structure is comprised of at least a rear strap and a front strap.
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1 6. The athletic shoe protection system of Claim 1, wherein said insert member
2 is removably positioned within said sandal member for allowing interchanging of said
3 insert member for various shoes.

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6 7. The athletic shoe protection system of Claim 1, wherein said insert member
7 is secured within said sandal member.

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10 8. The athletic shoe protection system of Claim 1, wherein said foam layer is
11 comprised of a resilient foam material.

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14 9. The athletic shoe protection system of Claim 1, wherein said foam layer is
15 comprised of a T-foam material.

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18 10. A method of forming an insert member to receive a bottom of a shoe
19 having a plurality of gripping members, wherein said insert member has a foam layer
20 and a thermoplastic layer attached to said foam layer, said method comprising the steps
21 of:

22 (a) heating said thermoplastic layer to a soft state;

23 (b) pressing said bottom of said shoe onto said thermoplastic layer wherein
24 said gripping members extend into said insert member forming recessed portions; and

25 (c) removing said shoe from said insert member.

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28 11. The method of forming an insert member of Claim 10, including the step of
29 cooling said thermoplastic layer to a hard state.

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3 12. The method of forming an insert member of Claim 11, including the step of
4 inserting said insert member into a sandal member.

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7 13. The method of forming an insert member of Claim 12, including the step of
8 inserting said shoe into said sandal member on top of said insert member, wherein said
9 gripping members of said shoe are received by said recessed portions.